

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SAIGON 19003 060817Z

14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 PM-07 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 NSC-10 PRS-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /066 W

----- 042160

R 060700Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8720

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

S E C R E T SAIGON 19003

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, PINS, VS

SUBJECT: G-3 BRIEFING, MONTHLY MR-1 COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION AMEMBASSY SAIGON FROM AMCONSUL DANANG
NOVEMBER 03 REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION

QUOTE

R 030205Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL DANANG

TO RUMJIR/AMEMBASSY SAIGON 3815

INFO RUMJPT/AMCONSUL BIEN HOA 40

RUMJHW/AMCONSUL CAN THO 44

RUMJNE/AMCONSUL NHA TRANG 54

RHMSMVA/DAO/SAIGON

S E C R E T DANANG 1194

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, PINS, VS

SUBJECT: G-3 BRIEFING, MONTHLY MR-1 COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE

REF: DANANG 1188

THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF THE G-3 BRIEFING PRESENTED AT THE
MONTHLY MR-1 COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE ON OCTOBER 28 WAS PREPARED

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BY THE REGIONAL LIAISON OFFICER:

1. THE G-3, COL. HA MAI VIET, REPORTED A REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF COMMUNIST VIOLATIONS, BUT INJECTED THAT ALTHOUGH THERE WAS A REDUCTION, A TOTAL OF 670 VIOLATIONS FOR OCTOBER, COMPARED WITH 883 IN SEPTEMBER 1973 THE VIOLATIONS IN OCTOBER HAD AN INCREASE IN SEVERITY. SEVERAL IMPORTANT BRIDGES WERE MINED, TWO IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE (CAU LAU AND GIAO THUY), AND ONE IN QUANG TIN PROVINCE (BA-BAU). ALSO OF SIGNIFICANCE, HE REPORTED, WERE THE LAND-GRABBING OPERATIONS (BACH-MA, MO-TAU, AND CO-BI). PLUS HE CITED THE 122MM ROCKETING OF TAM KY, PROVINCIAL CAPITAL OF QUANG TIN (FIRST TIME SINCE THE CEASEFIRE). TO PREVENT THE COMMUNISTS FROM GRABBING MORE TERRITORY SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL GVN OPERATIONS WERE ACTIVATED BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS.

2. THE OPERATIONS OFFICER ALSO REPORTED ON THE IMPROVEMENT THE REGIONAL FORCE BATTALIONS HAD ACCOMPLISHED. HE STATED THAT COMPARED WITH THE THIRD QUARTER 1973 THE PRESENT FOR OPERATIONS STRENGTH WAS NOW HIGHER. ALSO THAT 70 PERCENT OF THE RF BATTALIONS (34 OUT OF 50) HAVE UNDERGONE SUPPLEMENTARY TRAINING. FURTHERMORE, REFRESHER TRAINING BASED ON A FIVE-WEEK PROGRAM HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED STARTING ON 8 OCTOBER 1973. 2 RF BN ARE PRESENTLY UNDERGOING THIS PROGRAM. PLANS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE BY I CORPS TO TRAIN SOME RF BNS UNDER THE CURRENT REFRESHER TRAINING PROGRAM BEING CONDUCTED FOR THE REGULAR ARVN DIVISIONS. SINCE SEPTEMBER 1973 THE TRAINING OF 5 NEWLY-ACTIVATED RF BN HQS HAS BEEN COMPLETED. 3 NEWLY-ACTIVATED HEAVY WEAPONS PLATOON ARE STILL UNDERGOING THEIR TRAINING. THE G-3 REPORTED ON THE REGIONAL FORCES BATTALIONS OVERALL COMBAT CAPABILITIES. 20 RF BN RATED AS GOOD 25 RF BN RATED AS AVERAGE AND 5 RF BNS RATED AS POOR.

3. THE FINAL PORTION OF THE G-3 REPORTING WAS ABOUT THE AIR CONTROL FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN MR-1. THERE ARE 35 BEACONS CURRENTLY WITHIN THE ENTIRE I CORPS. ONE MINI-BEACON LOCATED AT I CORPS HQS IS USED TO TEST THE OTHER BEACONS. ALL OF THE DIVISIONS HAVE 201-X BEACONS. THE MARINE DIVISION, TEN, THE 1ST AND 2ND DIVISION HAVE FOUR EACH, THE AIRBORNE AND 3RD DIVISION SEVEN EACH, AND THE RANGER HEADQUARTERS, ONE. TO EQUIP EACH BATTALION, HE STATED, THEY WOULD NEED 93 MORE BEACONS. ON

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FORWARD AIR CONTROLLERS, HE REPORTED, THE 1ST AIR DIVISION HAS THE FOLLOWING: 61 OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT (0.1, 0.2, AND U.17), 51 PILOTS, AND 38 FORWARD AIR CONTROLLERS. THERE ARE ONLY 18 OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT PRESENT FOR OPERATIONS, DEPLOYED AS FOLLOWS: EIGHT AT PHU BAI, EIGHT AT DANANG, AND TWO AT CHU LAI. HE ENDED HIS REPORT STATING THAT WITH THE PRESENT NUMBER OF PILOTS AND FORWARD AIR CONTROLLERS, THEY HAVE THE CAPABILITY OF GUIDING ONE HUNDRED FORTY FOUR FLIGHTS (OR TWO HUNDRED

EIGHTY EIGHT SORTIES) PER SDAY. FORTHERMORE IN THE EVENT THE
SITUATION BECAME CRITICAL, 1ST AIR DIVISIONS MAXIMUM CAPABILITY
IS AS FOLLOWS: 1. AIR COVER AT EIGHT DIFFERENT LOCATIONS
PER DAY. 2. GUIDANCE TO FIGHTER AIRCRAFT: 192 FLIGHTS (384
SORTIES) PER DAY.

POPPL

END QUOTE

MARTIN

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NNN

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